

## Los Angeles County Flood Control District & County of Los Angeles Fiscal Year 2012-13 Assessment of In-School Stormwater Education Programs

## Generation Earth

Teachers attending Generation Earth workshops complete an evaluation form. Scores for the workshops are as follows:

- 83.7% of participants could accurately identify two components of service learning.
- 93.7% of participants could correctly name two resources that could help them complete a project.
- 100% of participants could accurately identify key items that can be reduced, reused, and/or recycled.
- 100% of participants could state what their next step would be for a stormwater pollution prevention/watershed campus project.
- 90% of participants could accurately describe a watershed.
- 100% of participants could state what urban runoff is and some of its causes.

Teacher assessments of the value of ongoing professional development workshops and program support have been consistently high. Approximately 98% of teachers rated ongoing professional development provided through this program as excellent or very good.

Generation Earth conducted six student focus groups and one teacher focus group by U.C.L.A. this year as part of the evaluation process. Sixty-two out of sixty-three students responded that the Generation Earth program had a direct impact on them regarding their concern for the environment. Most students also indicated the program had a direct impact at home by educating family members and changing behaviors at home.

Students were also asked how the Generation Earth program could be expanded at their school. Most students indicated the program could be expanded by providing recycling bins, additional buses for field trips, scholarships for students pursuing environmental engineering, and providing equipment for projects.

Teacher focus group results indicated most teachers found the workshops to be a very important component to the program. The follow-up support provided by the Generation Earth facilitators was instrumental in sustaining their programs and the field trips added real life experiences for the students. Most teachers indicated the offering workshops in clusters would be beneficial, since it can be quite a challenge to host a workshop at a school due to the different school policies for school districts. Most teachers agreed that their students went beyond environmental awareness and became stewards of the environment by participating in the Generation Earth program.

## **Environmental Defenders Program**

The Environmental Defenders contract was adopted on December 11, 2012. During the first few months of contract implementation, the contractor- auditioned and hired new actors for the program, revised the script, and ordered replacement equipment as necessary. During the next reporting period, teacher and student focus groups will be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of the Environmental Defenders program and the student's awareness of environmental issues.